In attributing verifying or nonverifying values in the tables above given, I have allowed a margin of one or two days, instead of limiting the possibility of a verification to the exact date six months later.

An examination of the tables readily discloses the fact that the rule laid down by the Trade affords a very unsatisfactory basis for long-range temperature forecasting, for not only does the number of failures far exceed the exact verifications, but the opposite of the rule has been found to have occurred more often than the rule for which so much is claimed.

In the article in question a number of examples were given to prove the truth of the rule. These examples were all taken from a comparison of the summer temperatures of 1898, with the winter temperatures of 1899, and at first glance might, without further examination, seem to comply with the rule and prove its accuracy to a fair degree. I therefore give a few details of the conditions obtaining during that period with reference to an application of the Trade temperature rule.

The first four days of July were excessively hot, and the third marked the highest temperature (104°) that has ever been recorded at the Baltimore station; the first three days of January were cold, especially the 2d, when the minimum temperature was 6°, which is about an average lowest temperature for winter. This, however, was far from being the coldest during the winter of 1899, for in February, from the 7th to the 16th, occurred the most severe cold spell on authentic record, when the temperature was as low as 7° below zero. No corresponding warm period occurred in August preceding, during which time, in fact, the temperature did not vary much from the normal, and was below normal on several of the days. The 29th–31st of July was very warm, as stated in the article quoted, and January 28–31 was quite cold, especially the 28th and 31st, which were 12° to 15° below normal, but did not compare in severity with the February cold period. September 1–4, 1898, was an intensely hot period, but the following March, up to the 6th, was either normal or above in temperature, though a fairly cool spell followed from the 7th to the 11th. September 18–19 was again very warm, but March, at a corresponding period, was also warm, though a very cold spell followed on the 20th and 21st.

The whole matter merits attention only from the fact that suggestions or statements of this character are easily disseminated and as easily secure a hold on the public mind. The efforts to trace a relationship between the abnormal weather conditions that have been recorded at a place are worthy of commendation, but, as is well known, the most systematic and prolonged research of skilled meteorologists has thus far failed to give other than negative results. Knowing further, as we do, that the transient pressure systems, whose formation and development certainly can not be premised months ahead, are the governing factors in the production of temperature extremes for this section of the United States at least; it becomes necessary to first define a rule to foretell the dates of their occurrence in a given locality for four, five, or six months in advance. If this could be done, the temperature prediction would accurately follow.

RECENT PAPERS BEARING ON METEOROLOGY.

W. F. R. PHILLIPS, in charge of Library, etc.

The subjoined list of titles has been selected from the contents of the periodicals and serials recently received in the library of the Weather Bureau. The titles selected are of papers or other communications bearing on meteorology or cognate branches of science. This is not a complete index of the meteorological contents of all the journals from which it has been compiled; it shows only the articles that appear to the compiler likely to be of particular interest in connection with the work of the Weather Bureau:

Naturwissenschaftliche Rundschau. Braunschweig. 14 *Jahr.*

Bezold, Wilhelm von. Ueber Erdmagnetismus. P. 349.

Science. New York. Vol. 10.

Fergusson, S. P. Formation of Cumulus Clouds over a Fire. P. 86.

Zeitschrift für Luftschiffahrt und Physik der Atmosphäre. Berlin. 18 *Jahrg.*

Ritter, F. Die hebende Kraft des Windes. P. 153.

Stentzel, Arthur. Der Weg zum Ziel. P. 125.

Popper, Josef. Flugtechnische Studien. II. P. 133.

Meteorologische Zeitschrift. Wien. Band 16.

Kassner, Dr. C. Bewölkung in Europa an Cyklonen und Anticyklonen-Tagen. P. 241.

Maurer, J. Erscheinungen des Erdlichts, 1895–1899. P. 257.

Hazen, H. A. Das Problem des Psychrometers. P. 261.

—— Resultate der meteorologischen Beobachtungen in Kamerun (Gouvernement) in den Jahren 1896 und 1897. P. 264.

Supan. Vertikale temperaturabnahme in der freien Atmosphäre. P. 266.

Prohaska, K. Die tägliche Periode der Gewitter und Hagelfälle im Jahre 1897 in Steiermark und Kärnten. P. 267.

Prohaska, K. Bemerkenswerthe Entladungsformen der atmosphärischen Elektricität im Jahre 1897 in Steiermark und Kärnten. P. 268.

Polis. Die Niederschlagsverhältnisse der Rheinprovinz. P. 269.

Brucker. Wettercyklus. P. 273.

—— Resultate der meteorologischen Beobachtungen zu Port Nollath, Süd-Afrika. P. 274.

—— Klima von Puira, Peru. P. 275.

Hann, J. Review of A. Angot: Traité Élémentaire de Météorologie. P. 286.

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—— Meteorological extremes. P. 81.

Hazen, H. A. Effect of the Moon on the Temperature. P. 86.

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Brook, Chas. S. Lunar halo. P. 88.

Western Electrician. Chicago. Vol. 25.

McAdie, Alexander G. Lightning Conductors. (Extract from Weather Bureau Bulletin 26). P. 60.

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Wartman, Dr. Aug. Coup de foudre en boule. P. 96.

Gautier, Raoul. Violent coup de foudre. P. 101.

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Jullien, O. Ciel vert émeraud. P. 114.

Plumadon, J. R. La propagation des orages. P. 138.

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Teisserenc de Bort, Leon. Sur les ascensions dans l'atmosphère d'enregistreurs météorologiques portés par des cerfs-volants. P. 131.

Bouty, E. Les gaz raréfiés possèdent-ils la conductivité électrolytique? P. 152.

Thierry, M. de. Dosage des gaz carbonique au mont Blanc. P. 31.

Aeronautical Journal. London. Vol 3.

Fitz-Gerald, M. F. Flapping flight of Aeroplanes. (From Proc of Royal Society). P. 59.

Merrill, J. R. Some simple Experiments with Aero-Curves. P. 65.

Das Wetter. Berlin. 16 *Jahrgang.*

Less, E. Die Wissenschaftlichen Grundlagen von Wetterprognosen für kurze und solchen für etwas längere Zeiträume. P. 145.

Polis, P. Die Niederschlags und Temperaturverhältnisse des südlichen Roergebietes im Jahre 1898. P. 153.

Clayton, H., Elias, H. Ergebnisse der Drachen-Aufstiege vom 24 und 25 November 1898 am Blue Hill Observatorium. P. 162.

Elias, H. Drachen-Experimente. P. 167.

Annales de Chemie et de Physique. Paris. 7me séries. Tome 14.

Leduc, A. Les chaleurs spécifiques des gaz et l'équivalent méca nique de la calorie. P. 484.

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Artowski, H. Résultats préliminaires des observations météorologiques faites pendant l'hivernage de la *Belgica*: I. Température de l'air. P. 245.

Ventosa, V. La direction du vent et la scintillation. (*Suite*) P. 248.

Chauvereau. La variation diurne de l'électricité atmosphérique. P. 246.

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Wood, R. W. Photography of Sound-Waves by the "Schlieren-Methode." P. 218.